CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide selected from ~~the~~ a group consisting of:

   (a) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids from about 1 to about 108 of the amino acid sequence contained in SEQ ID NO:2

   (b) a polynucleotide encoding amino acids from about 2 to about 108 of the amino acid sequence contained in SEQ ID NO:2

   (c) the polynucleotide complement of the polynucleotide of (a) or (b); and

   (d) a polynucleotide at least 90% identical to the polynucleotide of (a), (b) or (c).

2. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising about 2 to about 862 contiguous nucleotides from the nucleic acid sequence identified in SEQ ID NO:1.

3. Canceled.

4. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising about 2 to about 324 contiguous nucleotides from the nucleic acid sequence contained in SEQ ID NO:1.

5. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising about 40 to about 250 contiguous nucleotides from the nucleic acid sequence contained in SEQ ID NO:1.

6. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide wherein, except for at least one conservative amino acid substitution, addition or deletion said polynucleotide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

   (a) amino acids from about 1 to about 108 of the amino acid sequence in SEQ ID NO:2; and

   (b) amino acids from about 2 to about 108 of the amino acid sequence in SEQ ID NO:2.

7. (Original) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, which is DNA.

8. (Amended) A ~~method of making a~~ recombinant vector comprising ~~inserting a~~ the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 ~~into~~ and a vector in operable linkage to a promoter.

9. Canceled.

10. (Amended) A ~~method of making a~~ recombinant host cell comprising~~ introducing~~ the recombinant vector of claim ~~9~~ 8 ~~into~~ and a host cell.

11. Canceled.

12. Canceled.

13. (Amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising amino acids at least 95% identical to amino acids encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 ~~selected from the group consisting of: (a) amino acids from about 1 to about 108 of the amino acid sequence contained in SEQ ID NO:2; and (b) amino acids from about 2 to about 108 of the open amino acid sequence contained in SEQ ID NO:2~~.

14. (Amended) An isolated polypeptide wherein, except for at least one conservative amino acid substitution, addition or deletion said polypeptide has an amino acid sequence encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of claim 6 ~~selected from the group consisting of: (a) amino acids from about 1 to about 108 of the amino acid sequence in SEQ ID NO: 2; and (b) amino acids from about 2 to about 108 of the amino acid sequence in SEQ ID NO:2~~.

15. Canceled.

16. (Amended) An epitope-bearing portion of the polypeptide of any of claims 13 or 14 ~~identified in SEQ ID NO:2~~.

17. Canceled.

18. Canceled.

19. (Amended) An isolated antibody that binds specifically to the polypeptide of ~~any of~~ claims 13 or 14 ~~15~~.

20. (Original) A monoclonal antibody according to claim 19.

21.-35. Canceled.

36. (New) An agent that inhibits the expression of the polypeptide of claim 13 or 14 in a cell, wherein the agent is selected from a group consisting of antisense oligonucleotides and ribozymes.

37. (New) The agent of claim 36, which is an antisense oligonucleotide having a phosphodiester backbone or modified base composition.

38. (New) The agent of claim 36 or 37, wherein the agent is contained in a liposomal formulation.

39. (New) A method of inhibiting apoptosis or proliferation of cancer cell, comprising inhibiting expression of SCC-S2 in said cell by transforming the cell with the vector of claim 8.

40. (New) A method of treating cancer within a patient in need of such treatment characterized by SCC-S2 over-expression by administering one or more agents of claim 36 to said patient.

41. (New) A method of treating cancer characterized by SCC-S2 over-expression within a patient in need of such treatment comprising administering the antibody of claim 19 to said patient.

42. (New) A method of detecting cancer characterized by SCC-S2 over-expression comprising detecting the levels of SCC-S2 expression in a patient or in a sample from said patient and correlating said level of expression to the presence or absence of cancer, wherein the method is effected by using the DNA of claim 7 or the antibody of claim 19.

43. (New) A method for inhibiting cancer cell proliferation in a cancer patient comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of the antibody of claim 19 or one or more of the agents of claim 36.

44. (New) A method of treating a condition characterized by BRCC2 underexpression within a patient in need of such treatment comprising administering the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 to said patient.

45. (New) A method of treating a condition characterized by BRCC2 underexpression within a patient in need of such treatment comprising administering the polypeptide of claim 13 to said patient.